

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

PCT/JP2002/009406



INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCT0212ZZ	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP02/09406	International filing date (day/month/year) 13 September 2002 (13.09.02)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/60		
Applicant ASAKAWA, Hiroyoshi		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 10 February 2003 (10.02.03)	Date of completion of this report 23 June 2003 (23.06.2003)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

CT/JP02/09406

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-10	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Documents cited in the ISR:

Document 1: "150,000 Kinds of Nozzles Retrieved on HP: A Venture Business in Tanba (in Japanese)," [online], 23 August 2002 (23.08.02), Kobe Newspaper, [Retrieved on 8 October, 2002], Internet <http://www.kobe-np.co.jp/kobenews/keizai/020823jc19790.html>

Document 2: JP, 2002-108881, A (Hitachi Tool Engineering Ltd.), 12 April, 2002 (12.04.02) (Family: none)

Document 3: JP, 2002-215929, A (Yaskawa Electric Corp.), 2 August, 2002 (02.08.02) (Family: none)

Document 4: JP, 2002-245106, A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 30 August, 2002 (30.08.02) (Family: none)

Claims 1-3

Document 1 cited in the ISR describes a nozzle information retrieving system in which catalogue images can be seen.

Documents 2 and 3 cited in the ISR respectively describe an invention in which (1) retrieval is made based on a specification, and (2) type numbers are presented as a retrieval result.

So, a person skilled in the art could have easily conceived of the subject matters of claims 1-3 based on documents 1-3.

Claim 4

Document 4 describes an invention relating to the advertisement and sale of IP information, in which simulation results are displayed. That is, although document 4 is not an invention relating to nozzles, it describes the technical ideas that simulation results are displayed as a means of presenting the information concerning electronic commercial transactions, and that the data used for designs are presented. Furthermore, simulation of nozzles is widely practiced for the purpose of designing, etc.

So, a person skilled in the art could have easily conceived of applying the technical idea described in document 4 to the invention described in any of documents 1-3, to arrive at the subject matter of claim 4.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of : V.2

Claim 5

Employing a virtual laboratory as a mode of simulation is considered to be a matter a person skilled in the art could have employed as required.

Claim 6

Simulating a sound is well-known.

Claim 7

Placing a special order in the case where no product in conformity with a specification could be found among existing products is a usual practice. So, a person skilled in the art could have, as required, "let the display screen of the said client apparatus display whether or not an order for special type nozzles should be placed in the case where retrieval could not be made in the said nozzle type number information corresponding to the said nozzle specification information."

Claim 8

It is considered to be a mere matter of design variation for a person skilled in the art that a server apparatus allows a nozzle arrangement design program to be downloaded, since the nozzle arrangement design program is well known.

Claim 9

The constitution in which the data delivered from a nozzle arrangement design program can be introduced into CAD is well known and is considered to be a mere matter of design variation for a person skilled in the art.

Claim 10

The constitution in which a nozzle arrangement design drawing can be attached to a nozzle purchase specification is considered to be a mere matter of design variation for a person skilled in the art.